

TE COUC PLAUERS 1978-79 1979-80





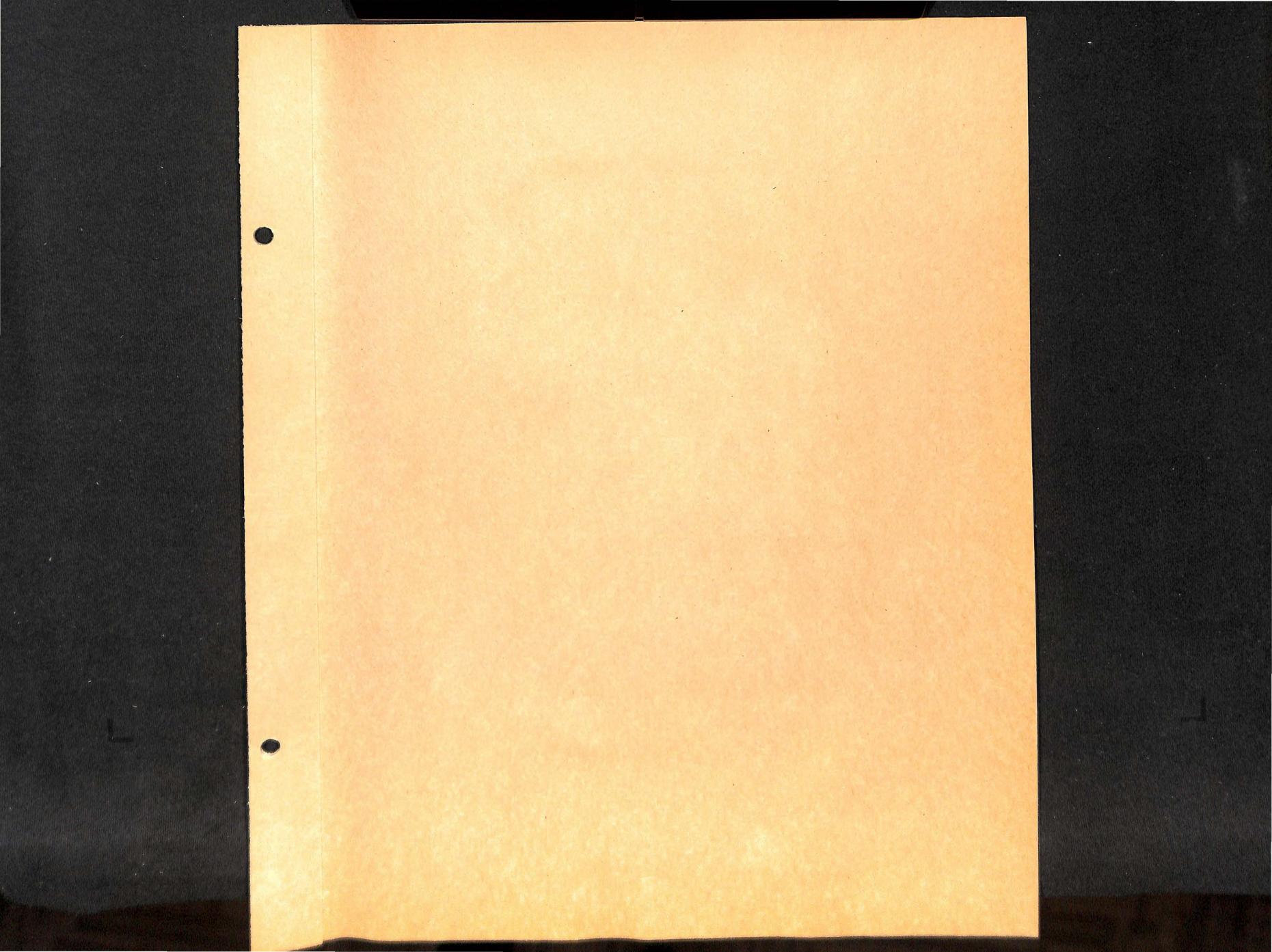
Our two years at East Central and participation in the Players provided us with new opportunities, new experiences, new challenges, and new friends.

Through the several productions and other activities, we learned about acting, about singing, about theater, about people, and about ourselves. We grew in creativity and in confidence. We grew closer to those faculty members who gave of their time and we grew closer to the students we worked with.

Players has become a part of us; and we want to remain a part of it. So we leave this Players' Scrapbook for a memory of our two special years. We Challenge you Freshmen who are returning to continue the tradition we have begun by composing a Players' Scrapbook each year. Unless otherwise specified, the elected secretary should be responsible for composing the scrapbook or seeing that someone does.

We hope all of your productions and undertakings are as successful and rewarding as ours have been.

Love,
The 1980 Sophomores



PLAYERS

We played hard, but the playing was hard work. Along with the Moments of fun and laughter, There were trying moments And frustrating moments And moments when it seemed We'd never get our act together. But in the end Everything fell into place -The Stage became our home; For we were no longer ourselves, But instead, the characters we created - we went into A different place A different time zone A different atmosphere away from the old routine, the old Self. Upon return, Self had bettered because of that Creativity uncovered.

Our Director Bruce Peterson

16 april 1980 Mr. Peterson, Though this scrapbook is given to the freshmen by the sophomores, it - as well as the tradition it established - is dedicated to you ... For all the encouragement you've given us ... For all the time you've spent to make our productions the hest they could possibly be ... For all the gatience you've demonstrated ... For all the talent you've revealed, which has individualized the Blayers' productions ... For all the support you've shown ... and for much, much more. This book is a small token of our appreciation; we hope you understand that our thanks and hest wishes run far deeper than this could ever show. With love, The Players, 1980 Susan Mihalie, President Sheila Whitten, Vice-President Rose Mclee, Secretary Evelyn Pierce, Publicist Jacke Wilson, Play-reading Chairman

Peterson loves the clowns.....

Individualism is a big part of his life

By ROSE MCGEE

As most students have probably observed, Bruce Peterson, Speech professor, decorates his office with clowns. When asked why, he related a childhood story.

As he was growing up in Waukegan, Illinois, a circus came to town every summer. It set up in a vacant lot, and he and other children would help. He says that he was especially enchanted with the clowns. His interest was furthered when he had the privilege to view the Ringling Brothers Circus in Chicago while it was still performed under a tent. Here he saw the famed clowns Emit Kelly, Lou Jacobs, and Arnold Gribbling.

Gribbling.

TV's Red Skeleton also influenced his interest in clowns.

He says that he liked clowns because of what they did for people; they "Made them laugh, made them forget themselves." He considered this a "wonderful thing."

Although he claims that he does not consider himself a clown despite the fact that "at one time I wanted to be," perhaps some would consider him as such according to his above definition. He does, however, answer with a simple "Yes" when asked if his 'individualism' has always been a natural part of his life.

Peterson began actually



collecting clowns several years ago..."I don't even remember when..." His clowns are done in crafts ranging from embroidery to ceramics. Most have been gifts

Peteson's theatrical experience began in high school at Waukegan, where he played the major role in "The Curious Savage" and minor roles in "Tea House of the August Moon" and "The Would Be Gentleman". He also worked on the stage crew in the musical, "Oaklohoma".

Turning down a scholarship in Perdu, and having relatives in Mississippi, Peterson attended college at Mississippi State. "I never-regret it." Beginning his major in Agriculture, he found he could not pass Chemistry. "I said to myself, 'Self, what are you gonna major in now?''' And he turned to Speech and Theater. He planned to go into the areas of radio and TV and had never considered teaching. However, while in graduate school at Ole Miss he made \$45 a in assistantship teaching and discovered that "This is wonderful; I want to do this the rest of my life."

While in college and graduate school, he participated in a number of productions and came in contact with several famous faces, including Mercedes Omegas, who received an Academy Award, and John Vivian, "Mr. Lucky." He had the privilege of working as understudy to John Carodine when he performed at Ole Miss. Peterson worked in a production with Anthony Auroerress, who has since played the part of "Jack" on the daytime "The Young and the Restless."

Several productions he worked on in some facet have become a part of East Central's theatrical history. While in college, he built a minature set with styrofoam for the 3-act play, "The Curious Savage", which was the first play performed on EC's campus. He designed costumes for the musical production "My Fair Lady." At Ole Miss, he worked with costumes in

"Once Upon A Mattress," this year's spring musical. This musical and "The Rainmaker" were both done under a tent at that time.

Peterson has been at East Central since 1967. This is his eleventh year directing musicals and his sixth for dinner plays. Of the musicals, he says that "Camelot," "Gypsy," "Hello Dolly," and "Mame" are among his favorites; the latter of which had always been "...one we would never do..." But he now considers EC's version as "...better than traveling Broadway... and in many ways, better than the movie..."

When asked if he ever had dreams of "Broadway," he shared that everyone in the field of theater does, but he never actually pursued it. "I enjoy knowing where my next meal's coming from..."

He has seen in others that acting is not all glamour. He believes 'stars' are normal people except for the possibility of more problems and pressures."..once you get to the top, there's no where to go but down...'All that glitters is not gold."



















appreciation also goes to these wonderful faculty members who contributed their leadership and talents along with hours of work to help make our productions

rocal relearneds preceding musical try-outs and chows auditions. He followed up by directing the chows until they could make it on their own and by helping cost members work out wocal parts.

dancers and worked out choreography for the musical with the group. Marion Thaton put in

Marion Thoton put in many patient hours accompanying for musical releansals and I for actual productions.

James Dyles worked hard with the orthestra and provided needed Longes in background music.

Bauce Surardy, art instructor,

displayed his students projects for the Dinner Theater and the Musical to provide an added touch.



Adrest Heritage, charal director







Ovid Vickers, Choreographer



Marion Thorton, accompanist



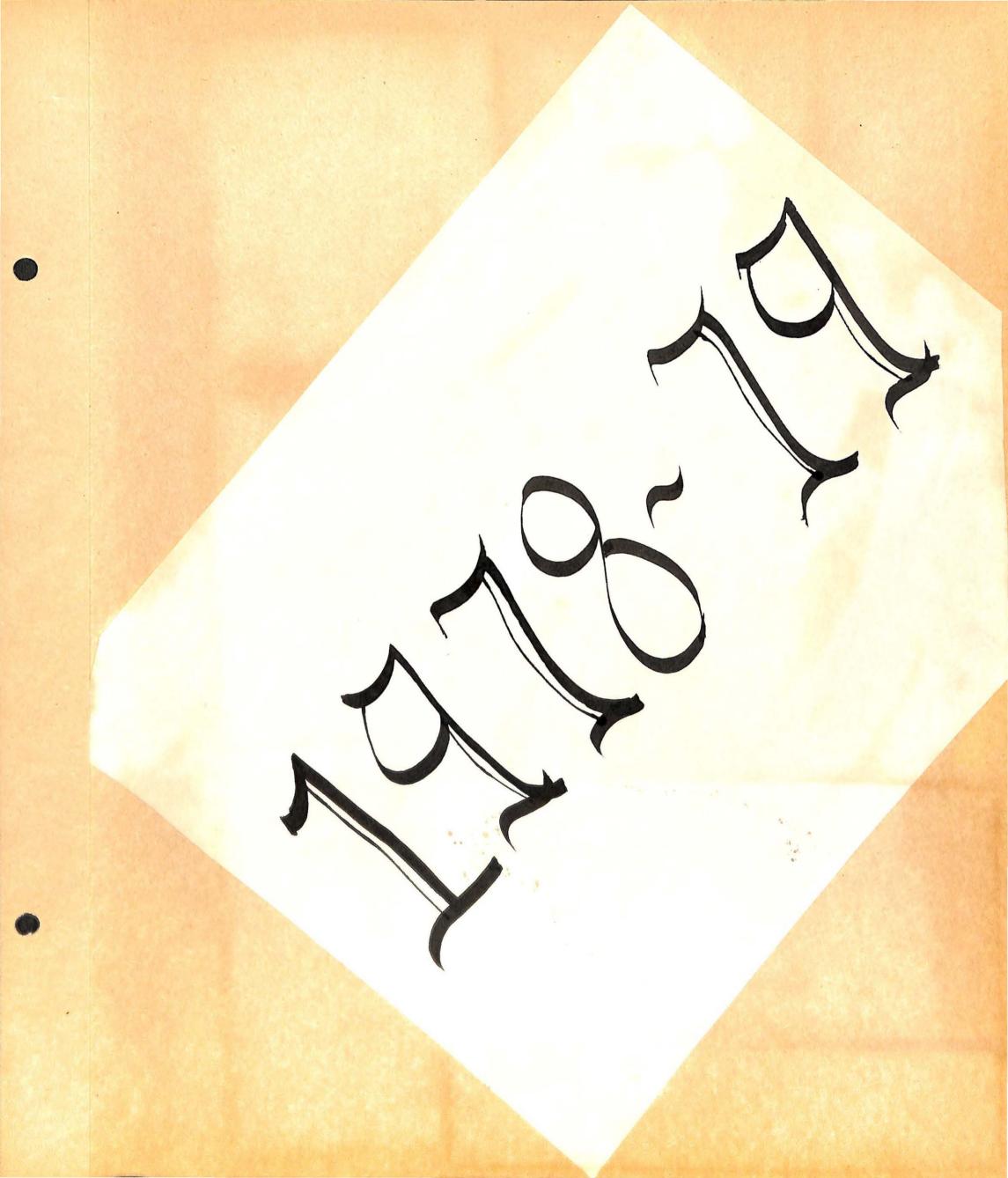
James Dykes, orchestra director



Bruce Guraedy, art instructor J.

Players begin production plans to the line of the line Borry Milips is new president... Reality of the first of the state of the sta testing officiales to respective to the state of the stat Day of the Ditter Theater, o be The straight to be held their The delive of this condition while the state of the state The Beddes of this confiditee Porties of Allen Miles. This conditions also includes all of the rest of the ded of the design of the rest of th Child the districts also discussed Hady activities to will be tradited in during the ordine post of the continue of t of Hone odinies in adding Dinger These of the and the mistalin the co. Property. the spind





Dinner Theatre slates four one-act plays

by Julie Goodwin

Tryouts were recently held for parts in E.C.J.C.'s Dinner theatre. There are four one-act plays which will be given at 7:00 p.m. on November 29-30 at the college cafeteria.

The first play is Let's Make Up. The cast includes Julie Wright as Marilyn; Rita Gayle Smith as Jean; Chuck McDowell as Dick; Barry Phillips as Johnny; and Guy Broome as the bellboy.

Terror Walks Tonight will be the second play on the agenda for the night. The cast includes: Jamie Satcher as Lester; Craig Gordon as Willie; Julie Goodwin as Estelle; Gwen Dickinson as Mrs. Harrison; Cindy Reynolds as Miss Woods; Randy Adair as Harold; Sylvia Hodges as Paula; and Patti Reed as Miss Hillman.

The third play will be Them Next Door. Portraying the characters are: Charles Parker as Booker; Shelia Whitten as Genny; Pervis Fisher as Alvin; David Fowler as Henry; Debra Higganbotham as Berta; and Janet Shaw as Brace.

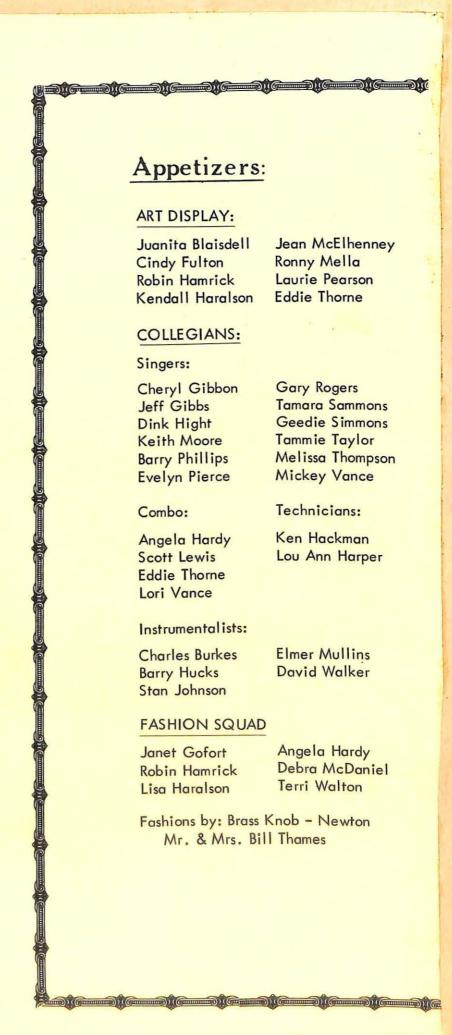
Bringing up the finale is Dark
Brown. The characters are:
Susan Mihalic as Mrs. Collins;
Renee Hollingsworth as Miss
Tasher; Krista May as Jenny;
Tammie Roland as Bella; Jackie
Wilson as Fred; Melody Measells
as Mrs. Persophelous; and
Randy Trest as Arthur.

Tickets for the theatre will go on sale one week in advance. They are \$2.00 for students and \$4.00 for non-students.

PRESENT

A ONE-ACT BUFFET

COLLEGE CAFETERIA Nov. 29, 1978 7:00 P.M. Admission - \$4.00 EC Students - \$2.00 THE BE



ECJC Players Present A One-Act Buffet

SOUP:

Dark Brown by: Philip Johnson

Mrs. Collins Susan Mihalic Miss TasherRenee Hollingsworth Jenny Krista May Bella Tammie Roland Fred Jackie Wilson Mrs. Persophelous ... Melodie Measells Authur Randy Trest

SALAD:

Terror Walks Tonight by: John Kirkpatrick

Lester Floyd Jamie Satcher Willie Overton.....Craig Gordon Estelle Floyd......Julie Goodwin Mrs. Harrison..... Gwen Dickenson Miss Woods Cindy Reynolds Harold Mayhew Randy Adair Paula Larkin Sylvia Hodges Miss Grace Hillman...Pattie Reed Chief of Police Dan Webb

MAIN COURSE:

Them Next Door by: G. L. Wallace

Booker..... Charles Parker Genny..... Shelia Whitten Alvin..... Pervis Fisher Henry..... David Fowler Berta Debra Higginbotham Grace..... Janet Shaw

DESSERT:

Let's Make Up by: Ester E. Olson

Dick......Chuck McDowell Johnny Barry Phillips Jean Rita Gale Smith Marilyn Julie Wright Bell Boy Guy Broome

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS:

Cindy Hamil Allen Muse

Sponsored by: Bruce Peterson

Shane Smith

Props: Lillie Harrison Sandra Whitfield Charletta Moore

Make-up: Teresa Warnock Myra Murrell

Make-up & Hairstyles by: E.C.J.C. Cosmetology

Ushers:

The Fashion Squad

Plays produced by Special Arrangement with Dramatists Play Service Inc., New York and Samuel French, Inc., New York.

Tickets: Carol McFarland Margaret Kidd

The buffet meal has been prepared by Leonard Lee and crew of ARA SLATER FOOD SERVICE.

NOTES:

- The taking of flash pictures during performances is not allowed.
- Please refrain from smoking during performances.
- There will be a 5 minute intermission between plays.

Thank you







Dark Brown

Jenny's Ausband, Author,

Johns I request trips to

which lis mother; but that's

not really where he goes.

At the bend of the Jelay,

he confesses to his wife I

lis profession - that of an

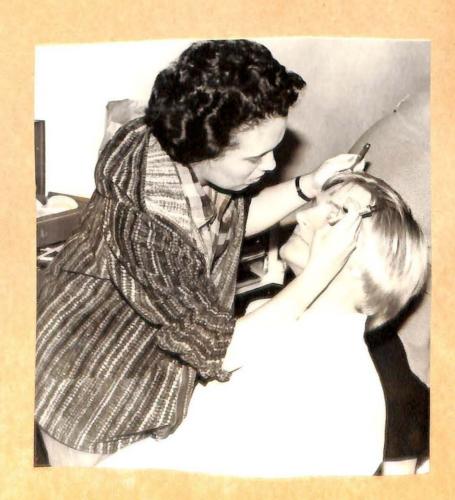
executioner



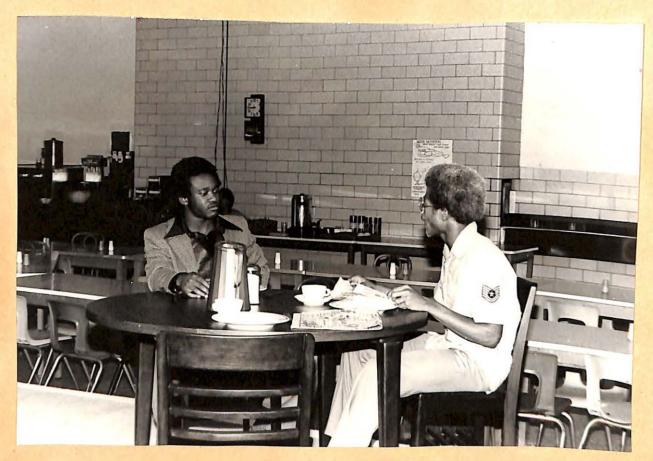




"Terror Walks Tonight"



Them Next Door "People aren't really that over different over though their color may be.





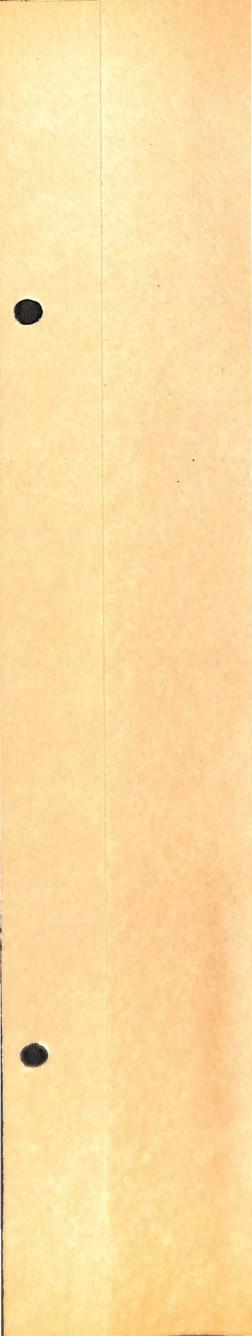


"Let's Make Up"
A nidiculous' double-date
in a hotel lobby.









MISMAL

MAM

SUN. MON.		MUSICAL Y	SAT	RSALS NOTES:
MARCH ACT I	ACTI ACTI	8 6:30 9 ACT I	10	measure for costumes Thursday
Lines AND	6-10 6-10	Scenes 1-10	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	
Songs	13 14	50ngs /	V	
		,0	17	
XSP	pring H	oliday	5	
NO	RE HER	SALS		
18 19 6:30			24	House lines & song
ACTI Scenes	ACTII ACTII Scenes Scenes	1 4		y 60y11
1-10	1-3 1-3	1.000		r.
Songs	BIOCKING Songs BIOCKING Songs BIOCKING 26/30 26/31	gloancers.		
			31	
ACT II Scenes - 3		ACTI411 Chorus	\times	
LinesAND	The state of the s			
ADDTI 26:30	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	0 5 6130	7 19:00	•
MACTI		ACTS INT	ACTS	
his modisig	ACT II Scenes From Mon.+	I + II 6:00 ACTS	T+II	
	Tues:	工十工	1-4-11	
8 2:30 9 7:30	10/230 11/2:3	0 /2/2:30 /3/2:	30 14	×
DRESS REHER- MAME		- MAME		
1 /				
1 SAL			1/	

MIAMIE

PRESENTED BY

EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE

ON OUR

50th ANNIVERSARY

Book By

JEROME LAWRENCE and ROBERT E. LEE

Music and Lyrics by JERRY HERMAN

Directed By

BRUCE PETERSON

Musical Direction By

BOB HERITAGE AND JAMES DYKES

Production
Accompanist
MARION THORNTON

Choreographer
OVID VICKERS

APRIL 9-13, 1979

FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM

EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE

7:30 P. M.









'Mame' production was a success

by Rita Gayle Smith

The East Central Junior College Players presented the musical "Mame", Monday, April 9 through Friday, April 13.

Evelyn Pierce of Newton captured the lead role in the musical. She played the part of Mame.

The supporting roles included: Cheryl Gibbon of Hickory who was cast as "Vera", Mame's best friend. Julie Wright of Louisville "Agnes played Gooch", an innocent girl who goes wild. Ken Hackman of Decatur played "Beau", a wealthy southern plantation owner. Tammy Taylor of Morton played "Young Patrick", an adventura ous little boy who captured Mame's heart. And Randy Adair of Union played older "Patrick" a matured young man had lived life but still had realistic values.

Other members of the cast included: Randy Trest as "Ito", Craig Gordon as "Mr. Babcock", Allen Muse as "Junior Babcock", Charles Comans as "Mr. Upson", Sharon McGee as "Mrs. Upson" and Jamie Satcher as "Lindsay".

"Mother Burnside" was played by Melodie Measells; "Sally Cato" by Julie Goodwin; "Cousin Fan" by Rose McGee; and "Pageen" by Dink Hight.

Two other divisions of the musical were the dancers and the chorus. The dancers were made up of Pam Rudolph, Brenda Munn, Rita Gayle Smith, Janet Goforth, Janet Shaw, Debbie Wroten, Sherry Cater, Dan Webb, Marty Pace, Charlie Cox, Todd Gregory, Richard Boswell, Steve Massey and Terry Fisher.

The people in the chorus were:
Carleen Jones, Mary Wade,
Carol McFarland, Melissa
Thompson, Natalie Thompson,
Sherri Miley, Rose McGee, Debra Jane Higginbotham, Patti
Reed, Sharon Goodman, Ann
Hollingsworth, Mike McDonald,
Clayton Whitehead, Charles Parker, Clay Scoggins, Kim Wolverton, Gary Akins, Jamie Satcher, and Chuck McDowell.

The East Central Orchestra, under the direction of Mr. James Dykes, provided the music. This year's orchestra includes: Angela Hardy on flute; Lou Ann Harper, Lori Vance, and Jackie Wilson on clarinet; Renee Hollingsworth on tennor saxaphone; Charles Burks on mellaphone; Jeanna Turner on oboe and English horn; Stan Johnson. David Walker, and

Keith Moore on trumpet; Geedie Simmons, Jeff Spears, and Richard Golden on trombone; Gary Rogers on tuba; and Scott Lewis and Cindy Brewer on percussion.

These people were the main cast for the musical. Even though they were very important, the people behind the scenes also helped make up the musical, too.

The director of "Mame" was Bruce Peterson, drama instructor at EC. Mr. Bob Heritage, music instructor, directed the music. Mr. Ovid Vickers, of the English Department, was the choreographer; Mrs. Marian Thornton, chairperson of the music division, was the piano accompanist.

the tickets. Danny Faulder was her assistant. They sold the tickets and saw that the seats were arranged in order and that the people got their tickets the night of the performances. Also helping them were David Fowler, Julie Goodwin, Martie Burton, Jamie Satcher, and Barry Upton.

The stage crew included Claude Massey, chairman, Delvin Jones, Kirk Blocker, Steve Myatt, Phil Shepard and Ronald Townsend. These men saw that the stage was arranged correctly for each scene.

Dink Hight was in charge of make-up the nights of the musical Helping her were Sher-

Mame looks on as Patrick (Randy Adair) courts Gloria Upson (Sylvia Hughes) at te Upson's party.

Jonney Alex-

Lenn Heberth

All others associated with the musical were ECJC students.

Two students from EC, Allen Muse and Cindy Hamil, were chosen as the assistant directors. These two students attended all rehersals and made sure all problems were solved.

The production assistant, Martie Burton, aided in the production. Debbie Wroten, secretary to the director, helped with the secretarial work.

Barry Upton, Martie Burton, and Wesley Collins managed the lights the nights of the musical. The costumes director was Sheila Breedlove. She was in charge of all costumes, the fitting, and the selection. Sherri Langford was her assistant. Also on this committee were Debbie Easterling, Barbara Greene, Kim Seepe, Emily Pugh, Julie Goodwin and Sherry Winstead.

Angela Hardy was in charge of

ry Hamil, Alice Myers, Jeanna Turner, Vicki Myers, Karen Sure, Janice Elliot, Penny Wilcher, and the Cosmotology Department. She and her committee saw that each member of the cast had on the right amount of make-up.

In charge of publicity were Rita Gayle Smith and Randy Trest. They made sure the people in this area knew about the musical and the details concerning it.

The prop's designs, were decided on and arranged by Sheila Whitten and her committee, consisting of Charles Parker. Charoletta Moore and Evelyn Murrell were also on this committee. They decided which props needed to be in which scenes.

House managers for the musical were Cindy Reynolds, chairman and David Fowler. Cindy and David made sure the people found their seats the night of the

musical and the intermission went smoothly. The Modeling Squad helped usher the nights of the musical.

And finally the stage managers, Sylvia Hodges and Janet Shaw were back stage during the entire musical, making sure that everyone was in their right place at the right time. Their helpers were Dananna Harrell and Donna Jo Sinclair.

All of these committees worked together behind-the-scenes to make sure that "Mame" went well through the entire week.

Everyone in the musical worked extremely hard since tryouts in February. Practice started the week after tryouts and continued till the play started.

The cast practiced every week, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, except the week East Central was out for spring holidays.

On Monday, Tuesday, and Thursdays, the students practiced at 6:30 and on Wednesday at 3:30. These practices lasted from an hour to a couple of hours, according to the work that had to be done.

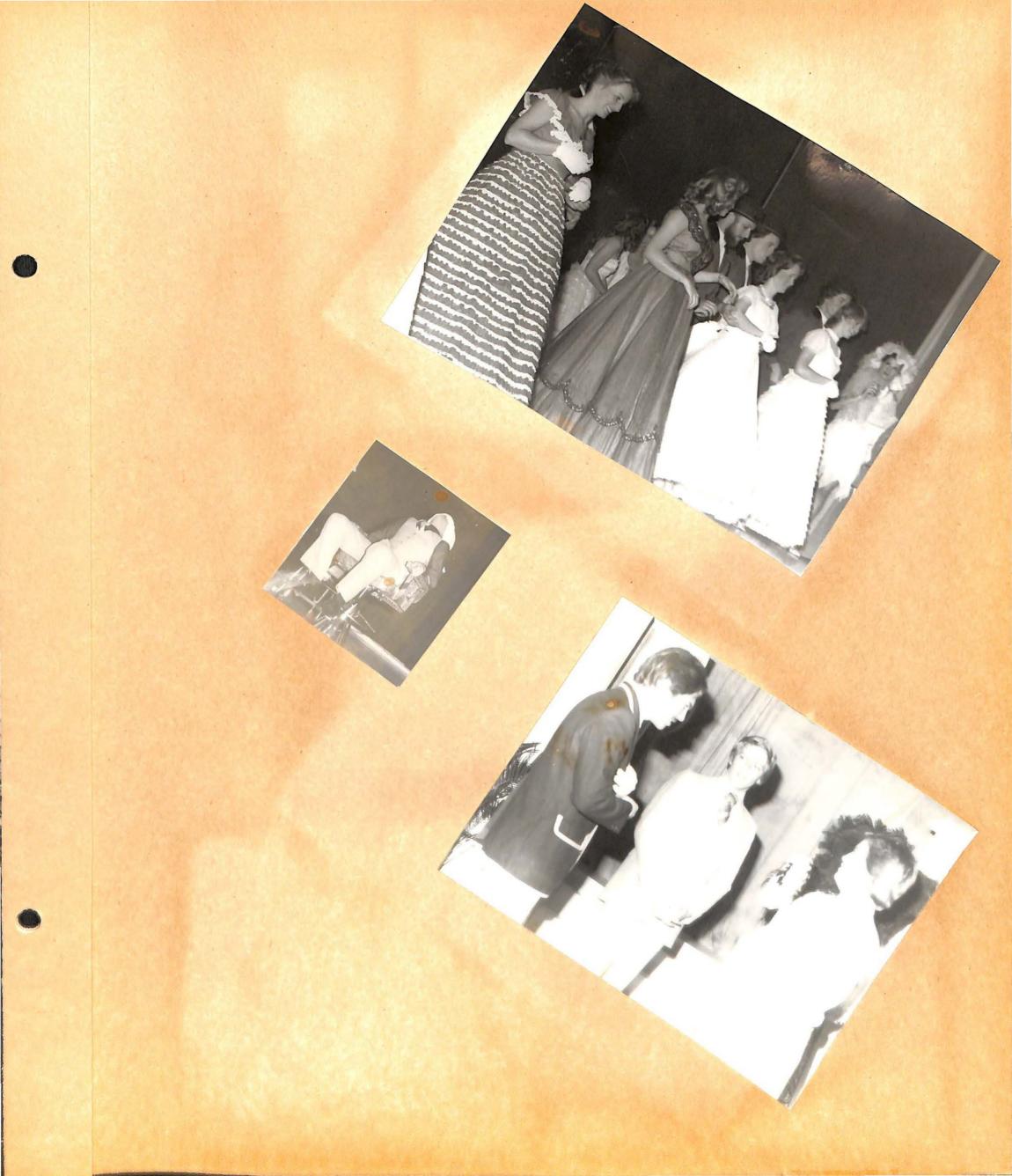
Even though the cast worked hard, the crew behind the scenes put forth a great deal of effort also. The director, Bruce Peterson, taught fundamentals of theatre class every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursdays for 50 minutes. During this time, each committee got together and planned things for the musical. Each person in this class was on a committee, or had a part in the play.

Even though every night of the musical week was important, the last night, Friday, April 13, was extra special. EC was celebrating its tenth anniversary of spring musicals and all participants in the previous productions were requested to attend.

The first musical for East Central was "Oklahoma" in 1970. This was followed by "South Pacific" in 1971, "Annie Get Your Gun" in 1972, "Hello Dolly" in 1973, "Camelot" in 1974, "My Fair Lady" in 1975, "Gypsy" in 1976, "Paint Your Wagon" in 1977, and "The Sound of Music" in 1978.

The performances of this year's musical, "Mame", was a sell-out every night. And also, just like the musicals of the past 10 years, it was a success.













Mame (Evelyn Pierce) encourages her young, nephew Patrick (Tammy Taylor) to "Open a New Window."



Dwight Babcock (Craig Gordon) attempts to take Patrick away from the determined Mame.



Agnes Gooch (Julie Wright) returns from her worldly experiences with a surprise for her friends.



Mame: "Enjoyable entertainment"

With a strong chorus, a good supporting cast and excellent main characters, East Central's Mame, directed by Bruce Peterson, was a success.

Evelyn Pierce, in the title role, had a deep, resonant voice, which reached what seemed to be impossibly low notes with ease. Although her voice did sound a bit strained during the first act's "Need a Little Christmas," she recovered in Act II to sing t'That's How Young I Feel" with a lively punch. The poignant "If He Walked into My Life" was the highlight of the evening, her voice taking on a husky, throaty quality.

Portraying Mame as both the cool but fun-loving sophisticate and the warm, sensitive aunt, Miss Pierce was especially stunning in the Southern scene and the Upsons' party scene.

Vera, played by Cheryl Gibbon, was haughty and dramatic. Her torchy, mature voice was best displayed in "Moon Song". She and Miss Pierce harmonized perfectly in the catty "Bosom Buddies." One disturbing aspect

of her performance was that she occasionally attempted to upstage Mame. Miss Pierce, however, had created too strong a character to allow this. Otherwise, Miss Gibbon's Vera was beautifully-interpreted as flashy, sarcastic and humorous.

Tammy Taylor as Young Patrick had a sweet, penetrating singing voice, particularly in "My Best Girl." Her speaking voice was a bit too squeaky, and she mumbled her lines when she was not facing the audience, but overall she made a happy, naive, thoroughly convincing Patrick.

Ken Hackman's Beauregard was the perfect example of Georgia aristocracy. His slow, very Southern drawl, fine acting and good singing voice combined for a well-rounded character.

Craig Gordon as Dwight Babcock was a minor disappointment. He stumbled through the first act, hesitating with lines; however, as the play progressed, his acting improved, though it never reached the level of the other leading actors.

Agnes Gooch, played by Julie

Wright, was wonderfully dowdy. Even though Miss Wright's singing was light and airy on the higher notes, this was more than compensated for by her acting. Her portrayal of the eccentric, innocent Agnes was marvelous.

Randy Adair as Older Patrick was excellent as far as his acting was concerned; despite his rushing of lines, he had good stage personality, his emotions acted out especially well. His singing was fair, with a tendency to be flat, but that faded as he sang.

The supporting cast filled out the play with a variety of personalities. Randy Trest's Ito, with his Oriental accent, sparked many scenes with humor. Although Lindsay Woolsey, played by Jamie Satcher, was lacking in emotion, he was a stable, solid character for Mame to fall back on. Julie Goodwin, as Sally Cato, was drippingly sweet. Melodie Measells, as Mother Burnside, had a lovely, clear soprano voice; she made a strong-willed, vigorous old lady.

Sylvia Hodges portrayed Glor-

ia Upson as the silly, bubbly daughter of the totally unsophisticated Mr. and Mrs. Claude Upson, played by Charles Comans and Sharon McGee. Miss McGee did a particularly fine job of playing a woman devoid of class, but with the misconception that she and her family were "high society."

The officers are: President

Under the guidance of Bob Heritage, the chorus did an exceptionally good job, the only flaw being that they started some of the songs too softly. The orchestra, directed by James Dykes, was strong but not overpowering, setting the mood of the play.

A sharp contrast with the mood of the play, however, was in the sets. They were bare, almost austere, and completely the opposite of the flambouyant Mame. This was especially apparent in her bedroom, where the furnishings consisted of one item --her bed.

All in all, Mame, EC's tenth musical, provided a week of enjoyable, if not always believable, entertainment.

BEARING THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF

TOM-TOM-

A Review

Rain Doesn't Stop

By DOROTHY THOMPSON (Opinion)

It couldn't have been a "rainier" night, to paraphrase a line from the 'play "Mame", but, the East Central Junior College production of that play last night still had almost a full house that gave a rousing standing ovation to the cast.

"Mame" is a bubbly, enthusiastic character, and the play is a colorful slice from the life of a woman who always lands on her feet. The production was in its fourth night and the entire cast worked tremendously together.

Evelyn Pierce made a delightful and lovely Mame. Her stage presence was very good: her voice projected so

that her every line was distinct. Her best song came in mid-Act II — "If He Walked Into My Life."

THORS PERMIT

Her best friend, Vera Charles, was done in good style by Cheryl Gibbon, who handled the role of the overly-dramatic Vera quite well.

I must comment on the costuming for both. It was really a well-chosen wardrobe, always contrasting the two women so that each stood out in her own way.

Some others in an overall good cast were: Julie Wright as the unfortunate Agnes Gooch, who took Mame's advice to "live." Her butterfly-like transformation scene was spoiled by a slight wardrobe problem but she handled the situation like a trouper.

Tammy Taylor as young

'Mame

fast-moving, but in a couple of places Cousin Fan's best lines were lost in the music and chorus.

The chorus throughout did an admirable job, but the "Perkerwood" scene was their best.

Though space does not permit the mentioning of all cast, crew, orchestra and chorus members, the entire group, along with Director Bruce Peterson, is to be commended. Musical direction for the play is by Bob Heritage and James Dykes.

Incidentally, this is the 10th annual spring musical of the ECJC Theatre and this is the college's 50th anniversary.

To night is the final performance. Curtain time is 7:30.



ADVICE FROM MAME — Evelyn Pierce as Mame gives some advice in song to her nephew Patrick (Tammy Taylor) in "Open A New Window" from the play "Mame", which runs through tonight at East Central Junior College.

Patrick did a grand job; she also came back to pick up the role of young Peter in the final scene.

Ken Hackman as Beau, Sylvia Hodges as Gloria and Randy Trest as Ito, all handled their roles with style.

The opening was unusual but effective — Agnes and Patrick approached the stage from the aisle. The bedroom scene was a slow action point, but the Shubert Theatre scene was handled with good timing as was the Christmas scene-both drew good responses from the audience. The "Perkerwood" scene was colorful, and

The critic,
Dorothy Thompson,
came in the
came in the
Thursday right
the atranat
"Sheat Easter" \$ loo













The 1978-79 ECJC Players Present

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE

ACT I

ACT II

A Little Night Music

Featuring

"Bosom Buddles"

Cheryl Olbbon and Evelyn Pierce

an

The tale H

Angele Horey

Officers:

President: Barry Phillips Vice-President: Julie Goodwin Secretary: Evelyn Pierce Tressurer: Cindy Hamill

> Play Peading Committee: Sylvia Hodges, Chariman Susan Mihalic Allen Muse Julie Wright

That's Encertainment

Awards for:

ACT XII

Best Grew Member
Best Orchestra Member
Best Charas Member
Best Dinner Theatre
Best Line, Musical
Best Song
Best Walk-On
Best Walk-On
Best Wit Part
Best Hinor Folc
Onistanding Players Awards
1978-79 Players Award

This season's troups would like to thank all the faculty members who have imported us . . and we extend a special thanks to our director.

Bruce Peterson - made the plays

16 Harry

Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?

Produced by Leonard Lee

Cast:

Cteak strips
Fuffed potatoes
Green beans
Salad
Cheese cake tart

1978-79 ECJC Players Productions:

Dark Brown
Terror Walks Tonight
Them Next Door
Let's Make Up
Name

All the world's a stage,

and all the men and women merely players.

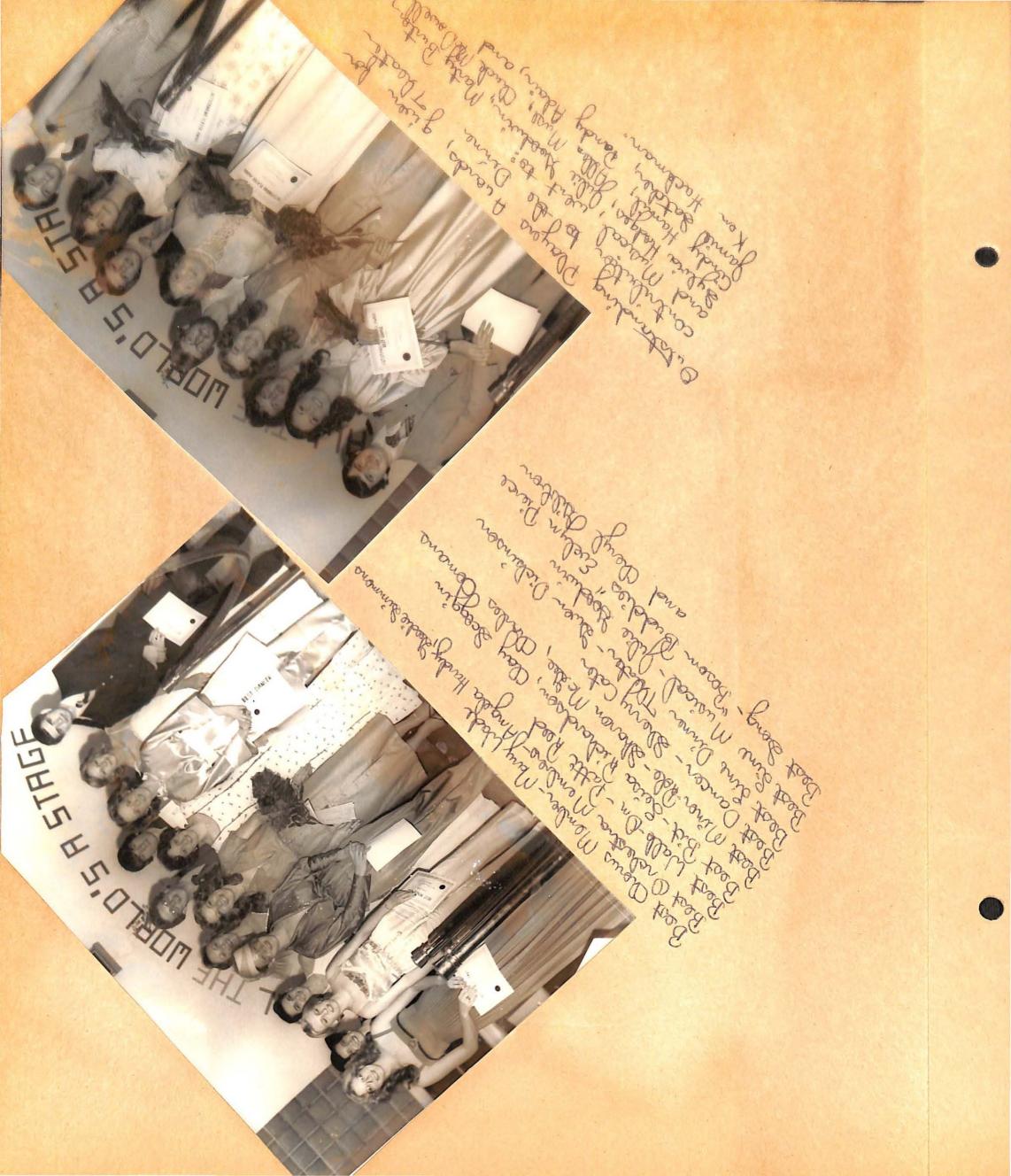
They have their exits and their ences;

and one man in his time plays

This was the 1st Amoual ECJC Players' Banquet.
Members enjoyed a candlelight dinner while was followed by the Awards Presentations—counsed out similarly to the Academy Awards, there was an envelope girl and everything.



Acting Awards, given for outstanding display of acting ability, went to: I Tanney Taylor, Evelyn Pierce, Julie Wright and Randy Treat.





Honored At ECJC Awards Day

East Central Junior College announced the following students recently received awards at the Annual Awards Day held recently. Receiving faculty awards were, from left, front row, Freda Maxey, Union, secondary education awards; Shelia Whitten, Newton, first year ROTC award; Rita Gayle Smith, Union, Tom Tom award; Julie Wright, Louisville, ECJC players award; Shelia Chaney, Little Rock, vocational-technical award; Don Ingram, Carthage, vocational-technical award; and Barry Upton, Walnut Grove, citizenship award; back row, Barry Phillips, Forest, ECJC singers award; Bobby Ray Huddleston, Union, Ole Miss pharmacy award, which includes a \$600 scholarship; Skippy Lathem, Walnut Grove, freshman math award; Randy Richardson, Union, French award; David Stradley, Forest, freshman chemistry award and freshman math award; Randy Trest, Forest, second-year ROTC award; and Bobby Cleveland, Union, most outstanding vocational-technical student. These students' names will be engraved on the trophies along with the elite group of former recipients and placed on display in the Student Services Building. (ECJC Photo).

The Players themselves voted for necepients of the ECSC Players Award, given on Awards Day, and the Most Congental Player.

Players Award - Julie Wright Most Congenial Player - Evelyn Pierce

Marty Burton, Donna Jo Sinolair, Dananna Harrell





Mr. Poterson Please place The Players areup picture on this lampte page when Mrs. Graham finishes the annuals



1979-80 PLAYERS OFFICERS---Vice-President Shelia Whitten, Secretary Rose Magee; Play-reading Committee Chairman Jackie Wilson; Publicist Evelyn Pierce; and President Susan Mihalic.

Players begin selection of material for EC productions

The ECJC Players had their first meeting on September 11. At this meeting, officers were elected for the 1979-80 school year. They are as follows: President-Susan Mihalic; Vice President-Sheila Whitten; Secretary-Rose McGee; Publicist-Evelyn Pierce; Playreading committee chairman-Jackie Wilson. Various club members were chosen to act on the committee. Bruce Peterson is the club sponsor.

The Playreading Committee has already acted in selecting possible plays for the up-coming dinner-theatre to be held sometime in November.

The purpose of the Players, through cooperation and organization, is to successfully put on a dinner-theatre in the fall and a musical in the spring for the public. There are no requirements for eligibility of club membership. The plays are sponsored, however, by the club members, and all interested students are urged to participate in the plays both on and off stage.

A membership roster is now being made. All interested students should contact Mr. Peterson or Rose McGee for further details and enlistment. The fire of the form of the control TIL 10 X × × oct, Mov, Osc. MP Sept. 18 Idam plande Si

An attempt to leep an account of members' attendence didn't work out as well. However, this noll would give one a general idea of who participated in Players of who participated in Players at one time or another.

ECJC PLAYERS PRESENT A ONE-ACT BUFFET

COLLEGE CAFETERIA Admission - \$5.00 Nov. 15, 1979 7:00 P.M. EC Students - \$2.50

MANTER THE AUTHORITY

Appetizers:

ART DISPLAY:

Dot Armstrong Susan Bane Richard Boswell Retha Bryan Marshall Dean Jerry Dunajick Wanda Freeman Sylvia Griffin Sally Hart Tamara Howell Jeane Kirby

Ricky Luke Donna McClendon Ruth McMullan Becky Mills Mike Mott Glenda Reilly Pat Reilly Kim Seepe **Betty Thames** Madeline Thompson Joan Young

COLLEGIANS:

Singers:

Randy Adair Cheryl Gibbon Ken Hackman Tamara Howell Cyndi Kennedy Sherri Miley Evelyn Pierce

Gary Rogers **Todd Rogers** Jamie Satcher Geedie Simmons Tammy Taylor Melissa Thompson Sherry Winstead

Combo:

Technicians:

Cindy Fulton Scott Lewis Eddie Thorne

Cindy Cleveland Craig Gordon Fran Miley Raymond Reese David Stradley

FASHION SQUAD:

Dinah Fortune Anita Germany Stephanie Hodges Leisa Richardson Pat Sinclair

Fashions by: The Brass Knob, Newton Mr. and Mrs. Bill Thames

ECJC Players Present A One-Act Buffet

SALAD:

The Day After Forever, by Charles Emery

Verna Clayton....... Susan Mihalic
Ella Lee Sharon Gill
Johnny Harwick Clayton Whitehead
Diane Clayton Leisa Richardson
Julie Preston/Mrs. Vale... Lynda Harvey

MAIN COURSE: One of Us, by Charles Emery

Michael Ken Hackman
Freda Jan Crenshaw
Agatha Rose McGee
Ingrid Retha Bryan
Lettie Sherry Weatherspoon
Vernon Jamie Satcher

DESSERT: Foiled by an Innocent Maid or The Curse of the Iron Horse, by Fred Carmichael

Letitia Carruthers Tamara Howell
Rachel Follansbee Cheryl Gibbon
Maude Filbert Tammy Taylor
Faith Hopewell Evelyn Pierce
Jimmy Randy Adair
Ferguson Longfellow Scott Long

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS:

Deborah Stribling Florence Harkins David Fowler

Directed by Bruce Peterson

Set: Charles Comans Al Haralson Anthony Johnson Tony Kirkland

Props:

Tammie Roland Jackie Wilson

Make-up: Tammy Gray Donda Hill Hairstyles:

ECJC Cosmetology

Ushers:

The Modeling Class

Hostesses: Nelda Evans

Centralettes
Cheerleaders
Flag Corps
Social Usage Class

Tickets:

Dana Heard Fran Miley Evelyn Murrell Shelia Whitten

Plays produced by Special Arrangement with Samuel French, Inc., New York.

The buffet meal has been prepared by Leonard Lee and crew of ARA SLATER FOOD SERVICE.

NOTES:

- The taking of flash pictures during performances is not allowed.
- Please refrain from smoking during performances.
- There will be a 10 minute intermission between plays.

Thank you

Flowers for The Day After Forever Courtesy of Genia's Flowers, Plants & Gifts Decatur

Wedding Gown by Lynda Gayle Easterling

Tuxedo Courtesy of Decatur Cleaners

The Day After Forever "
Julie Preston, just released after a long-tolm prison contonse, violits her daughter on her wedding days she disquises herself as a Mrs. Vale, as Diane is unaware shot Verner Clayton is not her real mothers.



"One of Us"

Hated Freda is

murdered and five

people must remain

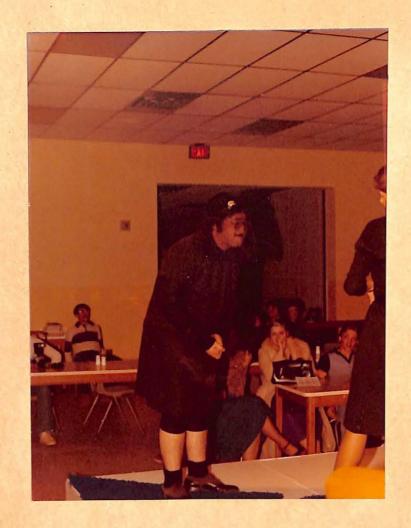
together until the

ond who did it confesses

on is discovered.









"Foiled By An Innocent Maid"
A dolightful melodrama.
The Villain tries to ewindle
the Follander inheritance,
but is discovered by the
pure Faith Hopewell.

Dinner theater presents

by EVELYN PIERCE STAFF WRITER

November 13 and 14, the ECJC Players presented the annual fall Dinner Theatre

Student art was displayed all around the dining area. The campus singers, The Collegians, entertained and the Fashion Squad modeled latest fashions before the play began.

The highlight of the nights was the plays. This year, three one-act plays were selected by a playreading committee of the Players. They were One of Us, The Day After Forever and Foiled By An Innocent Maid.

One of Us was more or less a "whodunnit" mystery. The character Freda, played by Jan Crenshaw of Newton, was murdered at the opening. The suspects were her "brow-beaten" husband Vernon, played by Jamie Satcher of Union; her mother-in-law Agatha. played by Rose McGee of Lake; the looney poetress, Lettie, played by Sherry Weatherspoon of Philadelphia; an old friend of the family, Michael, played by Ken Hackman of Decatur; and the sophisticated authoress, Ingrid, played by Retha Bryan of Ida, Michigan. Each character suspected the other, knowing it was "one of us" until the one gave himself or herself away. The assistant director for One of Us was Florence Harkins.

The Day After Forever was a more serious play. Diane, played by Leisa Richardson of Union was to be wed to Johnny, played by Clayton Whitehead of Newton. Little did they know that Diane was an adopted child. Her present mother Verna, played by Susan Mihalic of Union, had never revealed the fact to her because Diane's real mother had been in prison for many years. The real mother was Julie, played by Lynda Harvey of Forest. She came as an old friend of the family secretly wanting to reveal her true identity to her daughter. Ella Lee was the delightful maid, played by Sharon Gill of Walnut Grove. Deborah Stribbling was the assistant director for The Day After Forever.

Foiled by an Innocent Maid was a melodrama in which all of the characters purposefully magnified themselves to the point of comedy. Doom and despair had been cast upon the Follansbee household, and someone must come to their rescue. Letitia, the deaf old grandmother, was played by Tamara Howell of Decatur. Her daughter was Rachel, played by Cheryl Gibbon of Hickory. Maude, who acted as the comforting neighbor-



In The Day After Forever, the bride and groom, Leisa Richardson and Clayton Whitehead, sneak a kiss before the wedding.

next-door, was played by Tammy Taylor of Morton. Faith was the young maid, played by Evelyn Pierce of Newton, and Jimmy, the delivery boy, was played by Randy Adair of Union. The sly villian Ferguson was played by Scott Long of Philadelphia. David Fowler

was the assistant director for Foiled by an Innocent Maid.

Although the actors were in the spotlight, the people who make the Dinner Theatre possible were those who worked backstage. Handling ticket sales were Shelia Whitten, Evelyn Mur rell, Dana Heard and Fran

Miley. Working with makeup were Donda Hill and Tammy Gray. In the costume department were Lynda Fulton and Regina Wooten. Tammie Roland and Jackie Wilson handled props. Working with the stage sets were Charles Comans, Al Haralson, Anthony Johnson and Tony Kirkland. Steves Myatt and Craig Gordon worked the lights for the production. Setting up the cafeteria for each night were Mavis Harris, Doris Luckett, Lois Turner and Sharron Goodman. This semester's modeling class served as ushers, and the dishwashing committee included Johnny Upton, Wendell Nelson, Ronnie Hamrick, Mike Lee, Kerry Hudleston, Gary Barber, Vic Romedy, Bill Brand and Felix Johnson. Sherry Langford was the committee chairman.

three one-act plays



In One Of Us, Michael (Ken Hackman) points a threatening finger at Freda (Jan Crenshaw) who was blackmailing him.

A great deal more goes on in the production of a play than the audience views. Along with hours of advance rehearsal, backstage happenings make or break a presentation—proper makeup, sets, props, lights, sound effects, hair sytles, costumes, and timing are all vitally important.

With the aid of these special crews, characters in the ECJC Fall Dinner Theater came alive on stage. A comedy-drama. "The Day After Forever; a muder-mystery, One of Us; and a melodrama with the traditional villain, Foiled by an Innocent Maid.



The villian (Scotty Long), makes his play while Cheryl Gibbon, the grand-mother, listens in Foiled By An Innocent Maid.



Cosmetology students apply makeup for the cast. Ken Hackman gets a "paint job."

Musical auditions

Auditions for the annual spring musical held at ECJC will be held on January 8, 1980, from 3:30 to 5:00 and from 6:00 to 8:30 in the Fine Arts Building. The musical is scheduled to be Once Upon A Mattress, and will run during the latter part of February.

Try-outs are open to all East Central stu-

dents

Anyone interested in trying out for a part in the play or in helping with the production should attend the meeting to be held January 2, at 2:30 in the Fine Arts Building. Contact Bruce Peterson For further details.



THISTEAL

Once Upon Mattress

90		EB	RU		RY	1980	
1 Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday 2	
3	4 II 5-9 Dancers	5] II 5-9	6 II 5-9	7] I + II Chorus Dancers	8	9	
70	6:30 11 T Entire cast & CREW	6:30 12 II Cast + CREW	3:30 13) I Cast + CREW	6:30 14 II Cast &	15	16	
17	3:30 18 I + II Cast + CREW	3:30 19 I &II cast &	3:30 Scenes From I + II	3:30 3/I +II Cast + CLEW	32	23	
24 DRESS REHEARSAL	6:30 35 Omce	6:30 36 Up	3:30	6:30 28) Mat	aq tress	70	
2:30	7:30	7:30	7:30	7:30	7:30	7:30	





Book By

JAY THOMPSON, MARSHALL BARER AND DEAN FULLER

Music by: Mary Rodgers

Lyrics by: Marshall Barer

PRESENTS

Directed By

BRUCE PETERSON

Musical Direction

Orchestra Direction

BOB HERITAGE

JAMES DYKES

Production Accompanist

Choreographer

MARION THORNTON

OVID VICKERS

FEBRUARY 25TH - MARCH 1ST, 1980

FINE ARTS AUDITORIUM

EAST CENTRAL JUNIOR COLLEGE

7:30 P. M.



8-

A Student
Publication
Of
East Central
Junior College

THE TOM-TOM

VOL. XXXIV, NO. V

DECATUR, MISSISSIPPI

FEBRUARY 5, 1980

Nonprofit Organ. U.S. Postage 2¢ Paid Decatur, Miss. 39327 Permit No. 4

"Once Upon A Mattress"

Spring musical in production

East Central's production of Once Upon a Matress will be held February 25-March 1 in the Fine Arts Building. Bruce Peterson is director of this eleventh annual production, based on the story of "The Princess and the Pea."

The principal case members were chosen from the auditions held January 8. They are Evelyn Pierce, in the leading role of Princess Winnifred; Randy Adair as Prince Dauntless; Susan Michalic as Queen Aggra-

vain; Ken Hackman as King Sextimus; Leisa Richardson as Lady Larken; Jamie Satcher as Sir Harry; Todd Rogers as the Minstrel; Scott Long as the Jester; and Clayton Whitehead as the Wizard.

Lynda Harvey is assistant director.

Chorus members were chosen on January 14. They are: Libby Appleby; Mike Childress; Charles Comans; Cheryl Comans; Cheryl Gibbon; Craig Gordon; Mark Gunn; Tamara Howell

(who will also play the Nightingale); Rose McGee; Fran Miley (who in addition will portray Princess Number 12); Sherri Miley; Gary

NOTICE

Any students who are interested in helping with the musical should contact Bruce Peterson. There are many crews and committees whose work makes the musical possible. These positions must be filled!

Rogers; Tammy Taylor; and Melissa Thompson. Bob Heritage is in charge of all choral and vocal instruction for the musical.

Dancers auditioned for places on January 17. They are: Terry Adams; Cindy Beatty; Sheila Breedlove; Mike Childress; Charles Comans; Jan Crenshaw; Keith Gaines; Stephanie Hodges; Anthony Johnson; Tony Kirkland; Ricky Luke; Rose McGee; Evelyn Murrell; and Debbie Wroten. Ovid Vickers is the choreo-

grapher for all dance sequences.

The orchestra is made of select members of the East Central band. Band director James Dykes is conductor for the orchestra. Marian Thornton is pianist.

Ticket sales will begin on February 13. Tickets will be free to all EC students, faculty, and family members of faculty. Outside tickets are \$3.00. All seats are reserved. Tickets can be purchased beginning the 13th by calling 635-2126.





















THE MERIDIAN STAR COLLEGE TO BE STORED TO ST. 1888



IS SHE A PRINCESS? — Evelyn Pierce (front, center) as Princess Winnifred is being studied by Queen Aggravain (left) played by Susan Mihalic, King Sextimus (Ken Hackman) and Lady Larkin (Leisa Richardson) in the East Central Junior College production of "Once Upon A Mattress". (ECJC Photo)

'Mattress' Now Being Presented At ECJC

"Once Upon A Mattress" opened Monday for a six night run at East Central Junior College in Decatur. Performances begin at 7:30 each evening.

The production with an all-student cast and crew is the 11th annual musical to be presented by the college, according to Director Bruce Peterson.

In addition to the students with major roles in the production that were mentioned in an article in Tuesday's Today section, there is a large number who worked tirelessly both onstage and offstage to make the production a success.

Working with Peterson were Bob Heritage, music director; James Dykes, orchestra; Marion Thornton, production accompanist; Ovid Vickers, choreographer.

The Court and Court Dancers included: Libby Appleby, Mike Childress, Charles Comans, Cheryl Comans, Cheryl Gibbon, Craig Gordon, Mark Gunn, Tamara Howell, Rose McGee, Fran Miley, Sherri Miley, Gary Rogers, Tammy Taylor, Melissa Thompson.

Others are: Mike Childress, Ricky Luke, Tony Kirkland, Keith Gaines, Anthony Johnson, Terry Adams, Debbie Wroten, Sheila Breedlove, Stephanie Hodges, Cindy Beatty, Evelyn Murrell, Jan Crenshaw.

Orchestra

Sherry Winstead, Cindy Cleveland, flute; Lisa Wolverton, Gigi Street, clarinet; Teri Donald, bass clarinet; David Walker, Hugh Roland, Troy Myers, trumpets; Bryan Warren, french horn; Geedie Simmons, Jeff Spears, Richard Golden, trombones; Bob Heritage, Jackie Wilson, Donda Hill, recorder; Scott Lewis, percussion; and Retha Bryan, bass, bells, autoharp.

Production Staff

The production crew included: Lynda Harvey, assistant director and business manager; Tammie Shelley, secretary to the director; Richard Gatewood, Dianne Russell, Peggy Smith, Kim Wolverton, house managers; Lynda Fulton and Tammie Shelley, stage managers; Harold Howell, Mike Mott, Laurie Pearson, production design; Dianne Russell, Craig Gordon, Evelyn Pierce, publicity.

Others were: Felix Johnson, Sharon Gill, lighting; Debbie Easterling, Barbara Green, props; Wendell Nelson, Al Haralson, Gary Akins, David Little, Steve McKay, Raymond Reed, Ricky Stewart. Hilton White, sets; Dane Heard, Cindy Brewer, Betty Hathorn, Sandra Smith, Ruthie Stennis, Esther Thomas, tickets; Mavis Harris, Tamara Howell, Sharon Goodman, Lisa Johnson, Tammy Roland. Iris Smith, Pam Stewart, Patricia Thornton, Joyce Watkins, costumes.

Ushers, house managers, ticket committee members were also: Brenda Evans, Vicki Hamrick, Jane Harthcock, Laurie Tidwell and Sherry Weatherspoon, Margaret Laird, Lynn Livingston were responsible for makeup.

-Thompson

The Meridian Star

Tuesday, February 26, 1980

A Review

The Princess Got Her Man And A Standing Ovation At ECJC

By DOROTHY THOMPSON (Opinion)

DECATUR — Not only did the Princess Winnifred (Evelyn Pierce) get her prince and her "happily ever after" but she also received a standing ovation on the opening night of "Once Upon A Mattress" at East Central Junior College.

Last night was the beginning of a six night run for "Mattress" and it is the 11th annual musical staged by ECJC. This is the first year that the production will be presented six nights instead of five, Bruce Peterson, director, said.

The all-student production showed planning, work, dedication and a fine camaraderie among the cast.

Miss Pierce stole the show with her tomboy depiction of the Princess Winnifred. Her sleep scene on the mattresses was masterful.

The entire cast, crew and orchestra should be commended for their overall

good work. There were a couple of rather lengthy pauses between a couple of scenes in Act II and some instances of loud noises backstage during scene changes, but, hopefully, these problems will be smoothed out by tonight.

The sets were colorful, uncluttered and well-planned for the movement of the large cast in their elegant costumes.

It would be difficult to cite each individual in the production, but there were a number who did an outstanding job.

Susan Mihalic as Queen Aggrayain carried off her domineering role with style. She never stepped out of character as the arrogant queen. Ken Hackman as King Sextimus was delightful. Without uttering a word, he made his character one of the most colorful on stage. His stage presence was well polished.

Prince Dauntless (Randy

Adair) came across well as the "mother's baby" that the role called for him to be. He had a number of very good scenes.

Todd Rodgers as the minstrel opened the show and carried off his part well except for an over-preciseness in his speech, which made him seem stiff. The same was true of Clayton Whitehead as the wizard. He wasn't consistent in his characterization of the vain wizard. He, also, had some good scenes, which far-outweighed his occasional stiffness.

The jester (Scott Long) came across as the not-so-amusing son of a successful jester. He is to be commended for his attention to details in his role.

Leisa Richardson gave a good performance as Lady Larken. Her stage presence and timing were very good.

Jamie Satcher was Sir Harry and he handled himself well, although his voice was not consistently of the same quality in his singing.

Tamara Howell made her entrance sounding more like a crow than the nightingale that she was. However, she made her brief stage appearance into a cameo performance. (I was told that Miss Howell made a portion of her costume also.)

Fran Miley played Princess-Number 12, who fails the test and sets the mood for the rest of the performance.

The chorus must be commended for their style, uniformity and good timing. Space does not permit listing the remaining cast and crew members but a later article will include names.

Bob Heritage, Jackie Wilson and Donda Hill gave a very interesting short program on the Renaissance recorder prior to curtain time in order to introduce the audience to the instrument. The orchestra was under the direction of James Dykes.

To set the mood for the production, ushers, ticket personnel and other students working in the lobby were dressed in medieval-style clothing.

The play will run through March 1 in the Fine Arts auditorium at ECJC. For ticket information, contact the college.

The back-stage job is big

By ROSE MCGEE Assistant Editor

Behind the stage is found the organization from which the staged production results. Before the audience knows any more than "there is to be a show..." dedicated students put in hours of hard work hemming, altering, and ironing costumes; preparing sets, props, and lights; designing a program; publicizing; and selling tickets. On actual performance nights, these, plus a make-up and hairstyle committee, ushers, and additional helpers all play their own big parts. Assistant directors, managers, and crew chairmen work with, and sometimes despite of, the cast, chorus, dancers, and orchestra to organize a successful production.

As problems arise, someone manages to cover just as someone does when a cast member misses a line. When Scott Long's "Soft Shoe" was interrupted by a loud crash behind the curtain, the noise was eliminated as quickly as posible and the show went on. A set crew member came to the rescue when a curtain followed dancers carrying a mattress onto the stage. Problems such as these are likely to arise at some time during any production and capable crews help to minimize worry.

Mavis Harris and Tamara Howell served as costume chairmen. Their responsibilities went as far back as measuring for costumes to be ordered. Pam Stewart took a great deal of the later responsibility of hemming and altering, and costume changes during performances. Also serving on the costume committee were Sharon Goodman, Lisa Johnson, Patricia Thornton, Tammie Roland, Iris Smith and Joyce Watkins.

Lynda Harvey, Business manager, also served as Mr. Peterson's assistant director. Tammie Shelley served as his secretary.



KEN HACKMAN as King Sextimus gives a delightful performance without ever saying a word.

Richard Gatewood, Dianne Russell, Peggy Smith, and Kim Wolverton served as House Managersseating people, handling ticket problems, re-seating after intermission, and closing up after the show.

Lynda Fulton and Tammie Shelley were Stage managers-making sure cast, chorus, and dancers were where they were supposed to be at the right time.

Felix Johnson and Sharon Gill ran the lights.

With Wendell Nelson and Al Haralson serving as chairmen, Gary Akins, David Little, Steve McKay, Raymond Reed, Rickey Stewart, and Hilton White moved sets during scene changes. Debbie Easterling and Barbara Green made sure props were available.

Sherry Weatherspoon, chairman, Margaret Laird, and Lynn Livingston worked on the make-up committee.

Production Design was by Harold Howell, Mike Mott, and Laurie Pearson. Harold and Tamara Howell designed the program cover.

Dianne Russell, Craig Gordon, and Evelyn Pierce publicized the musical. Dana Heard, chairman, Cindy Brewer, Betty Hathorn, Sandra Smith, Ruthie Stennis, and Esther Thomas made up the ticket committee.

Also, House Managers and ticket committee members served as ushers along with Brenda Evans, Vicki Hamrick, Jane Harthcock, and Laurie Tidwell.

"Mattress" is EC's eleventh musical hit

by PAM TAYLOR

Inasmuch as "a genuine princess is exceedlingly grand" the ECJC musical production of "Once Upon a Mattress" is exceedingly entertaining.

The play begins as Todd Rogers, the minstrel, acquaints the audience with his eye witness account of the princess and the peastory. Todd is confident in the portrayal of the traveling minstrel. He speaks clearly and has a fine singing voice.

The scene with Fran Miley, as Princess Number 12, and Clayton Whitehead, as the Wizard, sets the stage for "Opening For a Princess" and shows the audience the Queen's testing procedure.

Lady Larken (Leisa Richardson) and Sir Harry (Jamie Satcher) make a charming duo. Leisa is convincing in her portrayal of the emotional and worried Larken. She has a strong stage presence and a flair for persuasive crying. Jamie Satcher makes a presentation of the chivalrous knight, Sir Harry. He is very good in expressing his love for Larken through song and facial expressions. Although they could have been louder, both Leisa and Jamie have fine singing voices which add to the effective portrayal of Larken

and Harry.
In top-notch style Susan
Mihalic becomes the arrogant Queen Aggravain
and domineering mother of

Prince Dauntless. She has a forceful stage presence and is masterful in controlling her Court.

Randy Adair depicts the perfect "mother's boy" in his role as the innocent Price Dauntless. He delights the audience with his pouting and bantering with his mother. While singing, Randy uses good facial expressions to convey the meaning of his songs.

As he pantomines across the stage, Ken Hackman (king Sextimus) proves to have a good understanding of the character. His performance as the mute king is both creative and amusing.

As the powerful wizard, Clayton Whitehead certainly looks the part from the bottom of his black dress to the top of his pointy hat. He delights the audience with his magic tricks, which are well planned and well carried out.

In the role of jester, Scott Long is enjoyable. He amuses the audience with his silly giggling and pantomiming with the king. Scott also has a nice singing voice.

Also the Nightingale of Samarkand, Tamara Howell, is stunning in voice and appearance.

Last, but definitely not least, is the determined and unforgettable Winnifred.

As Evelyn Pierce assumes the role of the princess from the swamp, she truly captivates the audience. Her singing is dynamic, for it is filled with expression, comedy, and originality. The vitality of her performance won the hearts of the audience.

The entire play is well carried out. The scenery is simple and uncluttered, yet effective. The Medival costumes are elegant. The

orchestra and chorus add much to the show. The orchestra has a good sound. They play with a good interpertation of the music which makes it interesting and lively. The chorus is strong and melodic. Although they could show a little more of the enthusiasm

befitting the story, their quality of sound made up for the lack.

The entire cast, crew, and directors should be commended for the tireless efforts that made ONCE UPON A MATTRESS the eleventh hit musical for East Central Jr. College.



PRINCESS AGRVAIN (Susan Mihalic) looks on indisgust as Princess Fred belts out a song from "Once Upon A Matress." Others in the picture are (l. to r.) Charles Comans, Shelia Breedlove, Wizard Clayton Whitehead, Scott Long, Randy adair, and Stephanie Hodges.

"Once Upon A Mattress"

Directed by-BRUCE PETERSON Musical Direction-BOB HERITAGE Orchestra Direction-JAMES Assistant Director-Lynda Harvey Secretary to Director-**Tammie Shelley** House Managers-Richard Gatewood Dianne Russell Peggy Smith Kim Wolverton Business manager-Lynda Stage managers-Lynda Fulton **Tammie Shelley** Production Design-Harold Howell Mike Mott Laurie Pearson Publicity-Dianne Russell Craig Gordon **Evelyn Pierce** Light Crew-Felix Johnson Sharon Gill Properties Debbie Easterlin Barbara

andell Nelson

Set Crew

Al Haral

Gary Aki

David Li

Steve Mc

Raymond Reed **Ricky Stewart** Hilton White Ticket Sales-Dana Heard **Cindy Crewer Betty Hathorn** Sandra Smith **Ruthie Stennis Esther Thomas** Costumes-Mavis Harris Tamara Howell Sharon Goodman Lisa Johnson **Tammy Roland** Iris Smith Pam Stewart Patricia Thornton Joyce Watkins Ushers-House Managers-**Ticket Committee-Brenda Evans** Vicki Hamrick Jane Harthcock Laurie Tidwell Make-up Sherry Weatherspoon Margaret Laird Lynn Livingston **Program Cover Design** Howell The Court Libby Appleby Mike Childress, Cha les Comans. Che vl Comans Craig Gordon Mark Gunn

Tamara Howell

Rose McGee Fran Miley Sherri Miley **Gary Rogers** Tammy Taylor Melissa Thompson **Court Dancers** Mike Childress Debbie Wroten **Charles Comans** Rose McGee Ricky Luke Sheila Breedlove Tony Kirkland Stephanie Hodges **Keith Gaines Cindy Beatty Anthony Johnson Evelyn Murrell** Terry Adams Jan Crenshaw Orchestra Sherry Winstead Cindy Cleveland Lisa Wolverton Gigi Street Teri Donald David Walker Hugh Roland **Troy Myers** Bryan Warren Geedie Simmons **Jeff Spears** Richard Golden Mr. Bob Heritage Jackie Wilson Donda Hill Scott Lewis Retha Bryan



CLAYTON WHITEHEAD, Scott Long and Todd





Hayers

X en Hackman

and

Jamie Sotcher

are to be

commanded

for their efforts

at Opryland

try-outs held

in Jackson the

Tuesday of the

rained-on mangural

Parade.

OPRYLAND TO AUDITION IN JACKSON

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- Opryland U.S.., the nation's only musical entertainment theme park, is sending its audition team to Jackson on Tuesday. Jan. 22. The team is visiting 26 cities searching for talent for the park's 14 musical productions scheduled for the 1980 season.

The auditions will be held in the auditorium of the Fine Arts Building at Belhaven College. Hours will be noon to 4 p.m. The next stop for the audition team will be in Birmingham, Ala. on Jan. 23.

Opryland, located in a city known for its music industry, emphasizes musical entertainment. Its show are in a variety of theaters--formal and informal, indoors and outdoors. They run the gamut from shows such as "For Me and My Gal," which is a George M. Cohan revue with 18 singers and dancers and an orchestra of 16, to solo specialty acts in a children's area.

The audition staff includes the park's entertainment director, entertainment manager, choreographer, musical director and show directors. They are searching for 400 singers, dancers, instrumentalists, dance captains and musical leaders/conductors. Also being sought are experienced stage managers, lighting technicians, sound engineers and stagehands.

Those wishing to audition do not need to make appointments. Opryland will provide a piano accompanist, record player and a cassette tape player at the audition site. Microphones will not be used, and instrumentalists who require amplifiers must supply them. Those auditioning must bring their own music in the proper key. Instrumentalists may be required to sight read. Those auditioning, must be at least 16 years old.

(Detailed information is in a brochure available by writing Entertainment Department, Orpyland U.S.A., 2802 Opryland Drive, Nashville, Tenn. 37214, or by telephoning 615/889-6600 ext. 341. Opryland opens its 1980 season on March 29 for a series of weekends that runs through May 25. It shifts to daily operations for the summer and resumes weekend operations from Sept. 9 through Nov. 2.)

project, Evelyn Pierce and Jamie Datcher went to try-outs for Meridian Sittle Theater's production of Sypay. Haymond Road west along for support. Evelyn was cast lin the marion role of Louise. Jamie Dady and Daymond Talle musical.

Me Peterson

Il vou can find a Junday

Mardian Store lated May so to

(I believe) please place the article

about Juson on this page.

I wasn't able to get one from

that day. Thank your.

to: Director of "Once Apon A Matress"

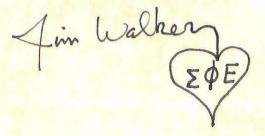
fr: Sigma Phi Epsilon Colony at Delta State University
Dear Sir,

The meries of Signa Phi Epsilon attended your production last Friday and all were pleased with the quility of production.

You may or may not know about our fraternity but our chapter goal is Education. We are starting a Jn. college program that will allow us a break from campus plus allow as a good educational experience.

Three of our members include Kieth Moore, Charles Burks, and Clay Scogens. It was their idea to attend the East Central play and it proved to meet our chapter avail of Education.

Thank you and your staff for a fine production



to: Director of Once Apon A fr: Sigma Phi Epsilon Dear Sin, College Control Junion The merien production 1 quelty Bruce Paterner, Wir 2517 MS. 38737 but our Decatur, M.S. college program plus allow as Kieth moore, Charles was their idea to attend it proved to meet our chapter your staff for a fine production Jim Walkery



March 3, 1980

Mr. Bruce Peterson East Central Junior College Decatur, Mississippi 39327

Dear Mr. Peterson:

My wife, some friends and I attended your production of "Once Upon a Mattress" last Thursday night and thoroughly enjoyed it. You and the entire cast are to be commended on a job well done.

I want, also, to thank one of your ticket sales coordinators. I apologize for not getting her name but the friends we brought wanted to bring their daughter and we did not have an extra ticket. I called on Tuesday and, even though you had a sellout, this young lady most graciously offered, and did, obtain another ticket for us.

Our sincere appreciation and congratulations.

Yours truly,

J. W. Rogers

Executive Vice President

JWR:yy

March 4, 1980 P.O. Box 169 Carriage, 475. 39051

Dear E.C. J.C. Players:

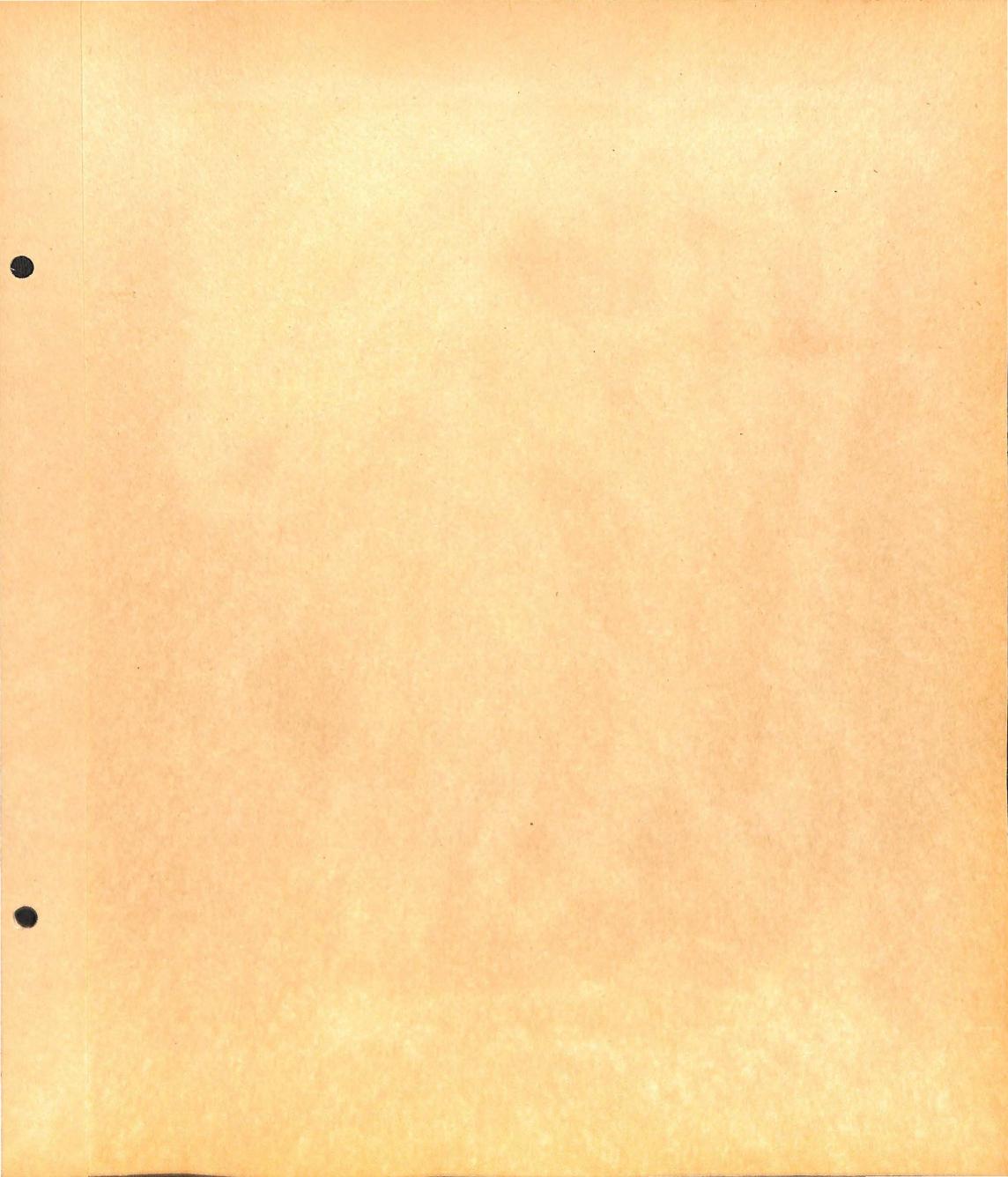
On behalf of the Carthage High School Drana Club, I am writing to commend you for the fantastic job you did of presenting Once Upon a mattress. We really enjoyed it and also appreciated the warm hospitality. It is a quot feeling to be away from home, but yet feel at home. We all trank you!

the closely associated with your gr. college like we are. We really exizer all the activities we share logither.

The & C. J. C. Players are always welcome at Carthage High School, especially in our Drama Club activities. Each new day is a new experience in our speech class and we have really grown alot from our experiences.

Once again I would like to thank you. Not only for the measure of wisdom we gained by attending your musical, but also for all the actuities and experiences we have shared together this year.

Sixcerely yours, Eileen Elann CHS Drama Club Presid



Tintamarre.....

Trip to Carthage is a good topic

By SUSAN MIHALIC Editor

"There's no such thing as a 'slow news day.' There are only slow news people." Why are cocky editors so fond of that phrase? I don't think they really believe it. They just use it to get their writers fired up. At one time, I actually did believe it, but that was before I became an editor. Now, I've found that there are slow news days...and slow news weeks...and even slow news months. They usually result in a column of this type-desperation-before-deadline.

The desperation-beforedeadline is an oft-used theme. I've seen it on Lou Grant, and I've read it in Murphy Givens' column, "Crazy Murphy." If it works for them, maybe I'd better try it, because it's about that time-deadlineand I've run out of things to fall back on. This is the last resort.

Now, what is usually done in adesperation-before-deadline column is well known to EC students; it's called "shooting the bull." It's worked so far, hasn't it? But I'm not going to ramble for the remainder of this; I'm going to tell you about last Friday, when the Players took The Day After Forever, one of the Dinner Theatre one-acts, to Carthage High School.

The trip was uneventful, but interesting. Mr. Peterson told us various plays he had been involved in and the work he had done. We were relaxed and looking forward to presenting the play to a new audience by the time we reached the high school.

The speech class, taught by Ms. Elizabeth Stewart, had prepared a reception for us that included a table mounded with food--pastries, cake, cinnamon rolls, doughnuts, chocolates, the works. We were too nervous to eat much and after Mr. Peterson spoke to the class, we went to the dressing room they had prepared.

The audience was very receptive to the play--perhaps a bit too receptive. When the bride and groom kissed, a voice yelled, "Get you some!"

Well that was okay. We took the "audience participation" in stride, and after the play was over and we'd given a little spiel about "come to East Central or you'll regret it the rest of your life," we left.

It's a good thing that what happened to us after we left didn't happen to us before we got there, or we probably wouldn't have given those speeches. East Central's van-our transportation-went dead...not once, but four times.

The first time was after lunch. A man at the restaurant had jumper cables, and got us moving again. The second time was in the middle of a "shortcut"-have you ever noticed that all shortcuts take you through the middle of nowhere? Luckily, there was a house across the road and Clayton Whithead (the groom) started toward it. Unluckily, the house was guarded by a Doberman and Clayton started back for the van. Luckily, I'm not afraid of Dobermans and I started

down the driveway. The dog ran away and a man came outside. He is not the type of person you would want to meet in a dark alley. I wasn't too wild about meeting him in a well-lit driveway. He had tatoos on his fingers--on either side of his knuckles--and on his ear lobes. However, he also had jumper cables and was nice enough to put a little life back into the ol' van.

The third death occured at the end of the shortcut, as we were turning onto the main highway. Debbie Milling, an EC student, stopped and revived the van, and we made it back to school just as the van went dead for the fourth time--right in the parking lot.

As someone once observed, East Central has a lot of things that used to work.

PLAILERS BAM WATER

THE ECJC PLAYERS

1930

AWARDS BANQUET

April 16,1980 7:00 P.M.

THE STAGE IS A MIRROR OF LIFE

ACT I

ACI I		
ALL THE KING'S MEN	PICNIC	A GREAT CAREER
Susan Mihalic, President	produced by Leonard Lee	Awards Presentation
Shelia Whitten, Vice-President	Salad	Best Bit
Rose McGee, Secretary	Steak Baked Potato	Best Chorus Member Best Walk-on
Evelyn Pierce, Publicist	Green Beans Cheesecake	Best Line, One Act Best Line, Musical
Jackie Wilson, Playreading Chair	Iced Tea man	Best Dancer Best Small Part
Bruce W. Peterson, Abvisor	ACT II	Best Crew Member Best Costume
GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER?	THEY'RE PLAYIN'OUR SONG	Best Song Best Orchestra Member
WELCOME	STARRING	ACT LII
·Susan Mihalic	Leisa Richardson and	OF THEE I SING
and	Jamie Satcher	STARRING
Jackie Wilson		Tamara Howell

ONCE MORE, WITH FEELING

Awards Presentation (Continued)

Most Congenial Player
Outstanding Player Awards
ECJC Players Award
ECJC Acting Awards
Special Players Award

ALL THAT JAZZ

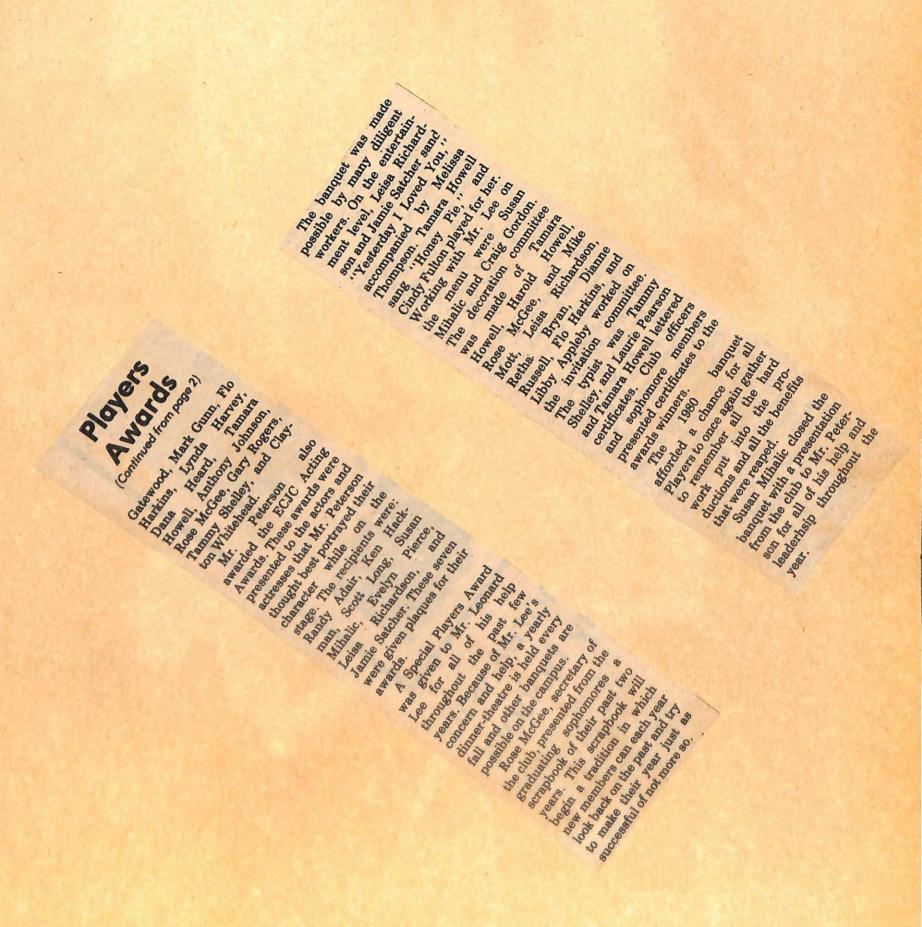
Special Presentation

Closing Remarks

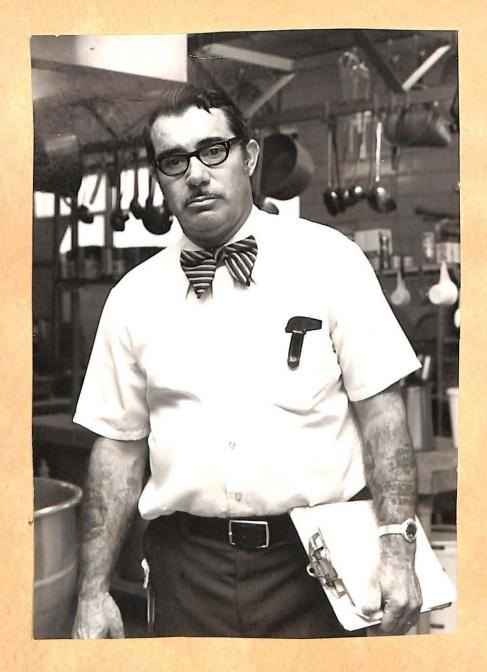
Susan Mihalic

The 1979-80 players thank the members of the faculty who made our productions possible. We extend a special thanks to a special man ----- our director, Bruce Peterson.

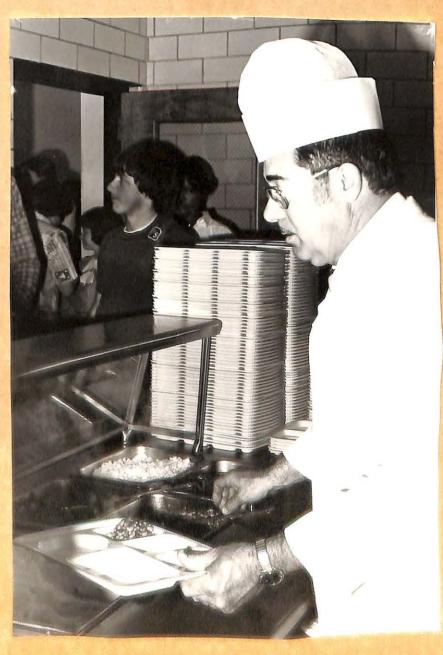


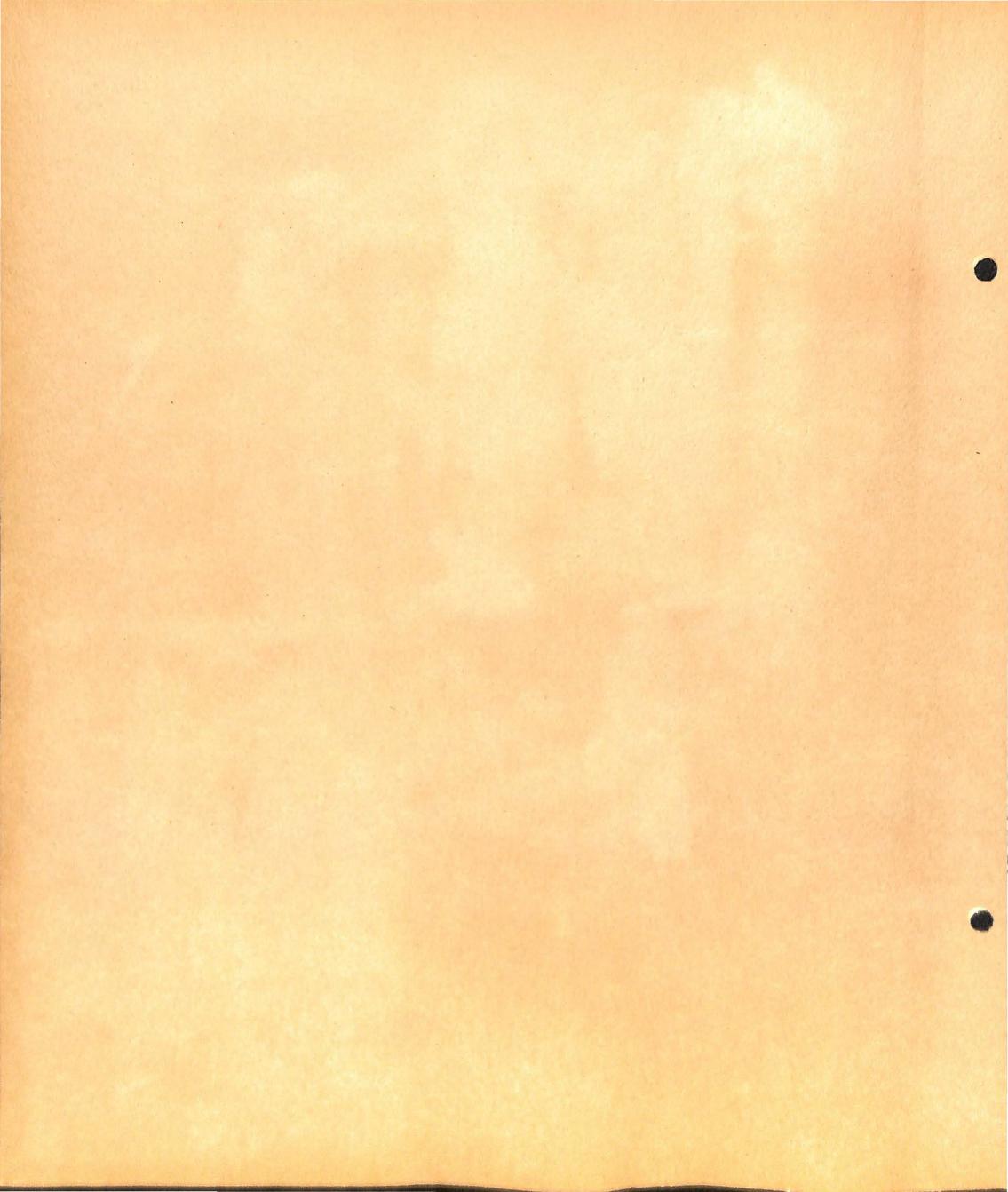


Mr. Lee, you are someone that we, the students, see daily. We see you sunning around in your white chef hat taking care of things and giving out orders. We want to let you know how very special you are, white chef hat and all.
We appreciate everything you have done;
* all the cookouts on the mall * the banana split bar you set up right after your back surgery. * every joke you have told * the signs you put up in the cafeteria such as, "no roll-throwing tonight," "no coke-out of gas", "Don't waste food," etc. Most of all we appreciate you being here. You have touched and brightened all of our lives. Thanks. The Players



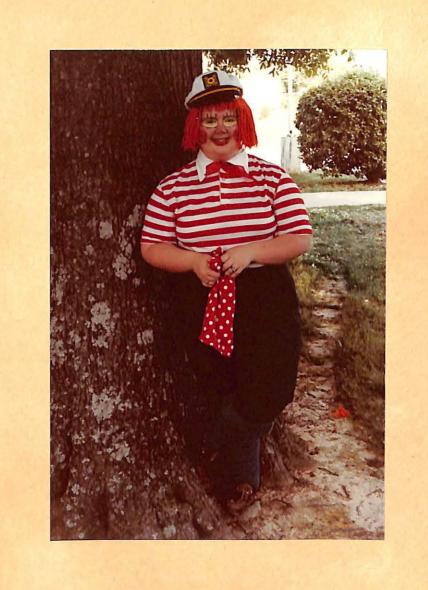
Without Mr. See, there wouldn't have been a Dinner Theater and there wouldn't have been a languet. So at the languet, he was presented with a plague to express our appreciation.





Auards

When Mrs. Straham gots through with the annual please place this year awards pictures on these pages



- Players dressed up in costumes.

For the annual picture. Winner of the award was presented at the languet. Hecepient of the award was Synda Fulton for her representation of Raggedy Andy.

My Potoson
Sany took a picture of
Sunda Stutton dosod as I
Adagady Andy. When he sands it
place I't under the gity

Mr. Petrson, Mrs. Graham
Hopefully, Mrs. Graham
Vill provide pictures left
will provide pictures
from the annual. Please
from those from Once Upon
A Mattress here on these pages.

Hories of three play-reading decision to order the following Foiled By An Innecent Maid" Sadies Should Be In Bed" "Inspector" - Because of high prices these were not ordered. * These were chosen theater "The Sadies Should Bo In Bed" was coupled with Those 3 meetings were held Sept. 12, Sept. 9, and Sept. 24. way for senior days.

On Tuesday, deptember 11, the ECJC Hayers met for the first time during the 179-80 term at 3:30 p.m. In the Fine Arts Auditorium Mr. Peterson sponsor, said the events planned for the yecoming year would include the dinner slays fall seneste and the annual musical production and players banquet spring senester. Meetings will be hold on the ruesdays of curriculum meetings at 3:30, He explained that officers were to be elected that day land defined Positions that weren + self-epplanatory. nominated for president were: Susan Mahalie, Randy Adain Ken Hackman Jusan Mahalio was elected and presided for the remainder of the meeting. Nominees for vice-president, were. Shaila Whitten, Jody Tidwell, Landy Adam and Key Hackman Shaila Whitten was elected. These nominated for exceptary IT were: Dinal Fortune Also Mittee, and Tammy Gray. Hose Mede will sente

Minutes









16 April 1980

There are times when one can bid an impersonal

goodbye. This isn't one of them.

I believe that we, the 1979-80 Players, not only realized our xotential, but we also realized that we have xotential, as an organization and as individuals. We have xroven that hard work, dedication, and talent are the "requirements" for a successful xroduction. But these qualities do not belong only to the students; remember the teachers without whom the Players would be "just another club" — Mr. Dykes, Mr. Heritage, Mrs. Thornton, and especially Mr. Peterson.

We leave the 1980-81 Players with a strong foundation on which to build, in next year's sophomores. We also leave you our pincere wishes for a year as productive as our years at ECJC have been.

Make the most of your opportunities at ECGC. The gotential of the Players and its members is unlimited Good luck!

Susan



